

REMARKS

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 309, 311-321, 323, 324, 326-331, 335-338, 340, and 341 were under examination at the time of the Action. Claims 309, 323, 331, 335, 336, and 338 have been clarified by amending the phrase “support member” to read “sensor layer,” and to include a support layer in the claimed invention. Support for the amendments can be found at least on page 164 to 167 and in FIG. 73.

II. CLAIMS 309, 311-321, 323, 324, 326-331, 335-338, 340, AND 341 COMPLY WITH 35 U.S.C. §112, FIRST AND SECOND PARAGRAPHS.

The final Action rejects the claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraphs. In light of the clarification provided by the currently presented claims, claims 309, 311-321, 323, 324, 326-331, 335-338, 340, and 341 are in compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Support for the pending claims can be found at least in FIG. 73 and on pages 164 to 167. The specification on page 164 reads:

In one embodiment, a chemical sensor array is composed of a number of superimposed layers. FIG. 73 depicts a side-sectional view of the sensor array system. A support layer 1010 [] is used as the foundation for the system. A spacer layer 1020 is formed upon the support layer. . . . The spacer layer may be patterned such that the spacer layer supports and outer portion of an overlying sensor layer 1030. This etching of the spacer layer 1020 may form a channel 1022 under the cavities formed in the sensor layer 1030. . . . The application of a cover layer 1050, may be accomplished by resting the cover layer on the elevated portions of the sensor layer. This creates a channel 1042 between the cover layer and sensor layer. . . .

The rejections presented in the final Office Action mailed March 13, 2006 are moot. Applicants note that the amendments presented are as suggested by the final Office Action and Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the present document is a full and complete response to the Action dated March 13, 2007. The present case is in condition for allowance, and such favorable action is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned Attorney at (512) 536-3167 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,



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